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# AMERICAN LEGATION

★ DAMASCUS ★

## Daily Review of the Syrian Press

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The following is an informal digest of material from the local Arabic Press, and is in no way to be considered as an official translation. It should not be quoted nor attributed to the Legation.

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PRESS DIGEST No.203, MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1948

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### NEWSPAPERS REVIEWED:

Alef Ba', Al Fayha', Al Alam, barada, An Nasr, Al Aiyam, Al Qabas, Al Kifah, Al Insha', An Nazir, Barq Ash-Shimal, Ash-Phabab, Ad-Duha, and Al Jebel.

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### P A L E S T I N E

#### SYRIAN ARMY AND LIBERATION ARMY COMMUNIQUES:

Syrian Army Communiqué: Al Aiyam October 23.

At 24:00 hours on the night of October 21-22, 1948 while on their return to their positions, our patrols observed in one of the hills the Jews planting mines on our lines. They opened fire on them and compelled them to withdraw thru the rocks and bushes. Our patrols pursued them.

Liberation Army Communiqués: (Unnumbered, probably 22.)

"At 14:00 hours on October 21, 1948 a Jewish plane carried out a reconnaissance flight over Liberation Army positions and then proceeded in the direction of Tyre. Three

days...

(Pr.Dig.203/2)

days ago concentrations of Jewish forces and armed cars had been seen in the Settlement of (Al-Manara) and in the barracks of the Nabi Yusha' Settlement. At 2:00 a.m. on October 22, 1948 strong Jewish forces supported by armed cars launched an attack on our positions East of Hule Village with the purpose of occupying it. They were repelled and pursued up to Saykh Amad situated North West of Al-Manara Settlement. Continuous reinforcements arrived at this Garrison in order to repel our forces which was able to defeat and detachment and occupy the barracks. The remaining forces were pursued up to the entrance of the Settlement.

In the morning of October 22, 1948 Jewish forces supported by a great number of armed cars from the barracks of Nabi Yusha' launched an attack on our positions Southeast of Al-Manara. They were repelled and pursued up to the barracks.

In these two attacks the Jews used field guns, a great number of large-caliber mortars and armed cars, a fact which proves that the Jews had previously planned this violation of the truce disregarding the presence of the UN Observers in their districts and in the districts of the Liberation Army.

The battle lasted until sunset on October 22, 1948. Our soldiers cleared all the hills of Jews inflicting heavy losses on them and held all these positions.

Jewish losses in personnel exceed 200 dead. Their corpses are still lying in the rear of our forces. 22 prisoners were captured all desperately wounded and are now being treated by our medical doctors. 8 armed cars were seized, 5 of which in good condition, 3 jeeps, two of which were armoured were also captured. Many transport vehicles and armed cars were damaged. An anti-aircraft and anti-tank gun as well as (81) caliber-mortar, 15 machine guns, 4 wireless sets and many weapons and ammunition of various calibers were also seized. Our casualties did not exceed 15 wounded.

Supplement to Communiqué - No.22

The Liberation Army Command has announced the following Supplement to Communiqué No.22.

"1. Following the series of defeats with heavy losses in lives and arms, the Jews have, in order to raise their morale, all during the night raided over the villages of

Hula...

(Pr.Dig.203/3)

Hula and along the line Mays-al-Jabal - Blida. The raids were not effective at all.

"2- At 2 a.m., The Jews have launched a double-attack at our forces in Tarbikha in order to weaken our pressure at Al-Manara, which is now completely isolated from other Jewish settlements. The attack was started from 'Umilon by two detachments from the north and south using mortars and automatic weapons, but they retreated to their base following 2 and half-hours serious fighting in which we have effectively used our heavy artillery. Our forces pursued the enemy up to the gates of 'Umilon. The enemy left large numbers of corpses scattered over both battle-fields.

"3- The Jews attempted to lift the blockade on Al-Manara of the evening of October 22, 1948 in order to evacuate the women, and employees, and to save all valuables from the settlement, and attacked from the eastern hills in the direction of Al-Hula, but our detachments opened strong fire on the enemy who left behind 22 dead, and many loaded animals. They were (The enemy) dispersed in all directions between the rocks.

"4- Strong Jewish forces launched an attack on the eve of October 23, 1948 with the purpose of opening the road to the Settlement of Al-Manara in order to save the remainder of the damaged Jewish tanks. Battles broke out and lasted until the morning and resulted in the defeat and retreat of the Jews leaving behind 31 dead bodies, and equipment including two tanks, two jeeps, which were employed during the battle.

"5- Other Jewish forces from Nabi Yusha' attempted to infiltrate from the valleys leading to Blida, but were taken under fire by our forces who were ready for such surprises and were easily repelled with heavy losses

"6- Information recieved indicates that the Artillery fire and fighting which occurred at the barracks of Nabi Yusha' resulted in great losses to the enemy. This barracks was the center for the concentration of large Jewish forces and transport animals from the district of Hula in preparation for a heavy attack on Blida with the hope of breaking the iron blockade of Al-Manara.

"7- The armoured cars and the artillery of the courageous Lebanese Army which participated in the battles on the eve of October 23, 1948 and which showed courage, vitality, and good marksmanship had great effect on the enemy and played an effective role in the victories attained by the Liberation Army.

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"8- Fighting is still in fact continuing locally and at intervals.

"9- Jewish losses in the battles and shelling of Nabi Yusha' reached 200 killed other than the wounded: Many ambulances were seen last night carrying the wounded to Nabi Yusha', and they are still continuing.

Sgd: Fawzi Qawuqji.

Liberation Army Communiqué No.23- October 23.

1- The Jews have this morning launched futile attacks from Nabi Yusha' in the direction of Blida with great forces with the purpose of lifting the blockade imposed on Al-Manara. They were repelled with heavy losses.

2- Jewish forces from the besieged Al-Manara have launched heavy attacks to break the blockade together with forces coming from the North to the village of Honin. This double-Jewish Attack was also repelled with heavy losses. From the same bases and with the same object, the Jews attacked for the fourth time, but were terribly defeated. 160 Jewish corpses are still scattered over the battlefield; their identity cards and complete documents as well as their weapons were taken.

3- The Jews have requested the Observers in the north of Palestine to intervene for immediate cessation of fire, but the Liberation Army Command imposed strong conditions on the aggressors in return for their acceptance of cease fire.

4- Reinforcements were incessantly pouring into the battlefield from all the neighboring settlements and launching attacks, but the consecutive attacks were broken in our defence lines.

The continuous engagements caused the death for further 250 Jews up till 1400 hours. The Jews are now in a defeated condition along the battle front, leaving behind in the battlefields all kinds of arms and ammunition and corpses in front of our pursuing soldiers.

ATTACK AND PUT OUT THE JEWS!... Says Faris al-Khuri.

Al Kifah: When asked of his opinion of the latest developments in the Palestine question, Faris al-Khuri said: I am now confident that the question can only be solved by force. Arabs must retaliate against the Jews by launching similar attacks to put them finally out of Palestine.

Faris Bey then assured that the Security Council and the UN would not take any action if the Arab resorted to these means, and particularly because there is not an International Army to intervene in the Palestine question. "I believe that Britain and America would not agree with Russia for example on the despatch of International Army to Palestine to stop the fighting between the Arabs and the Jews. I, therefore, hold that the question can only be solved when the Arabs resort to force."

ARABS WOULD RESUME FIGHTING IF JEWS VIOLATE TRUCE AGAIN:

Al Kifah: 'Observer' is quoted as writing that the Arabs would resolve in their continuous conferences on the resumption of fighting in Palestine. They would not resort any more to the Security Council as they believe -and they are supported in this belief by most of the UN Observers- that all the Jewish violations and attacks were deliberately planned and effected.

MORE UN OBSERVERS:

Al Kifah: 15 American and Belgian UN Observers for Palestine have arrived in Damascus and stayed in Orient Palace Hotel. Some of those Observers have been ordered to proceed to the Arab fronts in Palestine, Government sources believe that these Observers have been sent to see that the provisions of the truce are being respected.

AIR-RAID SHELTERS IN PREPARATION:

Al Kifah: The building of 25 modern air-raid shelters in the old city of Damascus has been decided by the Council of Ministers as a part of the Passive Defense programs.

"The building of these shelters would be accomplished as soon as possible," said Minister of State Lutfi al-Haffar, "in order to avoid any possible Zionist attacks."

PREMIER LEAVES FOR TRANSJORDAN:

Alef Ba': The Syrian Premier left Damascus on Saturday morning for Amman to participate in the meeting to be held there and attended by the Egyptian Premier and the Iraqi Regent. Lebanese delegates were expected to attend also.

Al Kifah....

(Pr.Dig.203/6)

Al-Kifah quotes Reuter to have reported Jamil Mardam Bey as having said prior to his leaving Amman that an agreement was reached on many subjects. Naqrashi Pasha is also reported to have said that no communiqué would be issued following these conferences.

COUNT BERNADOTTE... A CAT!...

An Nasr: Asked by the "New York Journal American's" correspondent about his opinion in the assassination of Count Bernadotte, Ben Hacht, the Zionist writer said: "Count Bernadotte is a 'donkey', unworthy of such a 'noble' death. He was not so intelligent as to be capable of accomplishing an evil deed purposely, but he was a professional 'cat' hired by Great Britain to 'pick the chestnut from the fire for her.'"

ARAB CONFERENCE AT AMMAN:

Al Kifah: It was learnt in Damascus that the Transjordanian Minister to Lebanon has delivered a most friendly message to the Syrian President from King 'Abdallah in which the latter called for a joint meeting of the Arab Statesmen in Amman to consider the present situation of Palestine both from the military and political points of view. As a result, the Syrian Premier left for Amman. A similar message was also delivered to the Lebanese President who contented himself by replying, through the Lebanese Legation at Amman, that the Lebanese Government assures King 'Abdallah of its full support of all decisions taken in the conference as far as the Palestine question is concerned.

NEWS IN HEADLINES:

Al Kifah: THE IMAM OF YAMAN RECOGNIZES OFFICIALLY THE PALESTINE GOVERNMENT.

JOINT ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMAND ESTABLISHED FOR WAR EMERGENCY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. AMERICA REINFORCES ITS NAVAL FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN PREPARATION TO FACE DANGERS.

MISCELLANEOUS...

(Fr. Dig. 203/7).

## M I S C E L L A N E O U S

### TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND LEBANON:

Al Kifah: In a circular to all the Security outposts, the Directorate of Police has ordered the prevention of entry and exit to all those not in possession of passports or official permits issued by the competent authorities. The Directorate of Police reasons that it has resorted to this action in order to protect the internal security of the country and at the same time to tightly secure the rear of the Army and the fighting forces.

A copy of the circular has been sent to the Lebanese authorities to take similar action, thus ensuring the mutual security of the two countries.

### IMPORTANT CABINET MEETING:

Al Kifah: A Cabinet meeting was convened last night at 7:00 p.m. through 10:15 p.m. According to a responsible source the Cabinet discussed various questions including the situation in Palestine. Dr. Muhsin Barazi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, told the reporter of Al Kifah that "the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the repeated Jewish assaults in Palestine and their continuous breaches of the truce. All were in agreement."

### PRESIDENT QUNWATLI'S VISIT TO IRAQ POSTPONED:

Al Aiyam: Owing to the latest developments of the Palestinian question, the President's visit to Iraq scheduled for Sunday October 24, 1948 was postponed to another opportunity, possibly shortly.

### INTERNAL POLICY:

Alef Ba': Our correspondent learnt that Nebih Bey Azmah, Head of the Nationalist Party in the last two days ceased to attend his office and receive the Party members. Our correspondent adds that the reason for this is his disagreement with the policy of the party ministers and papers. We shall publish further details about this subject later. An Nasr publishes a statement to Nabih al Azmah to the effect that he is carefully watching the yearly conferences of the Nationalist Party's branches in all the Muhafazas and hopes that in the coming General Conference, the Party would come out stronger than ever to realize its principles



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and hopes to reach its aims of performing a coup in the State to renew its life and eliminate the traces of the overwhelming bad policy.

As to his Palestine policy, Nabih al-'Azme'h reiterates that Palestine can only be liberated by placing the Arab armies under a unified command which will be free of political intervention.

#### US MINISTER VISITS FOREIGN OFFICE

Alef Ba': The Minister of Foreign Affairs has received on Saturday morning the US Minister to Syria for a long period. Following this visit, the Minister proceeded to the Presidency where he spent the remaining office hours in conference with the President.

#### ARSLAN WITHDRAWS HIS RESIGNATION

Alef Ba': Faris al-Khuri has reported to the Syrian Government that Amir 'Adil Arslan, Syrian delegate to UN, has withdrawn his resignation from the delegation, and that the Arab delegations in Paris have agreed on the distribution of work among them.

#### COMMUNIQUE ON 'IRAQI REGENT'S VISIT

An Nasr: An official communique was issued by the Government on the visit of the 'Iraqi Regent to Damascus:

"At 11 a.m. Sunday, October 24, 1948, there arrived at Mazzah Airport Regent 'Abdulilah of 'Iraq accompanied by Shakir al-Wadi. They were officially received by the Syrian President, the Premier, the Ministers, and State Officials.

"After reviewing the guards of honor, the 'Iraqi Regent accompanied by the Syrian President moved in a Presidential car to the Presidency. At 12 noon, the 'Iraqi Regent was the guest at a lunch party given in his honor and which was attended by the Prime Minister, Ministers, 'Iraqi Minister of Defence, Transjordanian Minister in Beirut, 'Iraqi Charge d'Affaires in Damascus, Muhafez of Damascus, and State Officials. At 1:30 p.m. the Regent and the President returned in a Presidential car to Mazzah Airport where the Regent was bid farewell, and at 1:45 p.m., he flew to Baghdad under the guardianship of God."

INTERNATIONAL

(Pr. Dis- 203/9)

INTERNATIONAL REPORT ON RUSSIA'S STRENGTH

An Nasr: published a report by the International Committee to look into European problems under the following heading: RUSSIA POSSESSES AN AIR FORCE CAPABLE OF BOMBARDING ALL PARTS OF THE AMERICAN CONTINENT, AND HAS THE GREATEST SUBMARINE FORCE AND ARMY TO FACE THE ANGLO-AMERICANS.

The same paper also published the second part of COMMUNIST PROGRAM IN THE NEAR EAST supplied by the USIS under the following heading:

SYRO-LEBANESE COMMUNIST PARTY IS LIAISON OFFICER BETWEEN JEWISH AND ARAB COMMUNIST PARTIES IN IRAQ AND PALESTINE. COMMUNIST LEADERS RECEIVE DIRECTIVES AND MATERIAL AID FROM MOSCOW.

MOVIES THIS WEEK

Dunia: THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS  
(Warner Bros.)

Starring: Humphrey  
Bogart, Barbara  
Stanwyck, and  
Alexis Smith.

Dimashq: THE PRINCE OF THIEVES  
(Columbia)

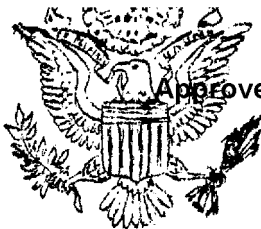
Don Hall and  
Patricia Morison

Aida: THREE WISE FOOLS

Frank Morgan, and  
Margaret O'Brien.

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RESTRICTED (For Staff Use Only)

Press Digest, No. 204, Tuesday 26, 1948.

Papers Reviewed: Alef Ba', An Nasr, Barada, Al Balad, Al Ayyam,  
Al 'Alam.

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### P A L E S T I N E

#### EFFICIENCY OF LIBERATION ARMY

Al 'Alam: Fawzi Pasha al-Qawuqji smilingly stated yesterday to our representative:

"Do you believe that only 600 fighters of the Liberation Army defeated 6,000 Jews?"

"Do you believe that the Liberation Army lost 31 killed and wounded while the Jews lost 1,100 killed and wounded?"

"..... and that 16 machine guns silenced 23 Jewish machine guns?"

"..... and that few rifles overcame 10 armored guns?"

"..... and that an old rifle silenced a machine gun and a mortar?"

"Do you believe that the Liberation Army refused to take any during the fighting for 36 hours?....."

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#### STRATEGIC TRIANGLE IN HANDS OF ARABS

An Nasr: The battles which broke out on Saturday evening resulted in the occupation by the Liberation Army of Al-Manara Settlement, which overlooks strategic hills and which is at 16 miles distance from Safad.

The battle fiercely lasted 36 hours and ended last night with the occupation of Al-Manara after giving the Zionists a good lesson which would never be forgotten. They lost 1,100 Jews, 23 machine guns, 10 armored cars, and a field gun, against the martyrization of 31 heroes of the Liberation Army.

Information received from Al-Khalil (Hebron) indicated that the Transjordan Army has moved yesterday from Bethlehem in the direction of the South and South-east occupying the village of Beit Nitif, which overlooks the main road joining Jerusalem-Khalil road with the main road of Jaffa-Gaza.

Information received late at night also indicates that the Transjordan Army has entered the town of Beit Jibrin, thus dominating the Triangle Al-Khalil - Bethlehem - Beit Jibrin, which separates South of Palestine from the North in the Central District.

#### CONFERENCES OF AMMAN AND DAMASCUS

An Nasr: Although the resolutions passed in the two conferences held at Amman are not as yet revealed, it can be ascertained that the conferees decided to regard Palestine as 'one Arab front'. Every attack on the part of the Zionists in any part of Palestine would be considered as an attack on all Palestine. It was also agreed that if the Jews would not retreat to their position held before the violation in compliance with the Security Council's Order, this would also be considered as a further violation of the truce and would necessitate the participation of all Arab armies to repel this violation and paralyze and wipe out the Zionist aggressions.

#### OPENING OF ARAB LEAGUE SESSION:

An Nasr: Our reporter informs that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has received a letter from the Secretariat General of the Arab League to the effect that its Session will be opened on Saturday, October 30, 1948 in Cairo.

Our reporter adds that the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs would possibly represent Egypt in this Session. The Prime Minister would only attend the first few meeting which would believably discuss the Palestine question and then return to Syria leaving Barazi in Cairo alone to attend the remaining meetings.

Dr. Qadri...

DR. QADRI VISITS REFUGEES:

Al Balad: Dr. Ahmad Qadri, Secretary General of the Ministry of Hygiene, has returned yesterday to Damascus after completing a two week tour around the areas occupied by the Palestine refugees in Syria and Lebanon. He declared upon his arrival that the condition of the refugees at the boundaries is very bad as they are in urgent need for food and clothing. While the refugees in the Syrian cities and villages are in good condition.

Our correspondent learnt that Dr. Qadri has submitted a report on his trip to the Cabinet and consequently to the Supreme Council of Refugees in Cairo.

COMPETITION ON PALESTINE:

Al Balad: Washington news reports that Truman and Dewey are competing for the gain of Jewish friendship. Mr. Dewey has delivered a speech in which he supported the UN decision of November 29, 1948, providing for a Jewish state in Palestine within the Partition Scheme, just as Mr. Truman has declared in an electoral campaign that he still supports the partition of Palestine on the basis that the scheme is acceptable to the Jews.

TRUMAN ORDERS IMMEDIATE LOAN TO ISRAEL:

Al Balad: President Truman has declared that he had ordered an immediate loan to be granted to the alleged State of Israel, a loan necessary for strengthening its war and economic effort.

The US will offer for sale a big number of American planes, some of which of modern types. The alleged State of Israel will perhaps purchase some of these planes and send them over to Palestine.

MARDAM'S DECLARATIONS ON ARMAN CONFERENCE:

Alif Ba': Asked about the results of the Arman conference, Prime Minister Jamil Mardam Bey replied:

"The meeting was a complete success, in spite of the hard circumstances prevailing. Many subjects which were expected to be difficult, were straightened out and all difficulty disappeared, and we hope that this belief will be justified in the coming few days." He also mentioned that Naqrashi Pasha very much wanted to visit Damascus after the conference but he had to refrain for urgent reasons. The Prime Minister concluded that all the Arab armies would collaborate with the Egyptian army by taking part in the fighting if the Jews would repeat their violation of the terms of the truce.

MISCELLANEOUS....

(P.Dig.204/4)

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

PRESIDENT QUTWATLI'S STATEMENT:

Al Balad: Al Ahram correspondent in Beirut reported the following:

The Syrian President has declared that in spite of the different points of view between Syria and Lebanon on the financial policy, the relations between the two countries shall never be severed, and an agreement must finally be reached. The President recalled that the two countries did not sever in the old times of misery particularly that Lebanon is headed by a respectable man who is keen upon the interests of the two countries, and whose presence is a guarantee of good will. On the Palestine question, Qutwatli commented: "In our opinion, the Palestine question precedes all other problems. The enemy is mobilizing its army in preparation for war. Is it therefore logical that Syria and Lebanon would quarrel while the enemy is stationed at their boundaries? What would Syria or Lebanon gain from an economic agreement if the enemy defeats them? In these circumstances, I admit that the economic problem between Syria and Lebanon is of no importance as compared with the Palestine question."

SYRO LEBANESE AGREEMENT POSTPONED

Barada: Our reporter in Beirut informs us that both the Syrian and Lebanese Governments have decided to postpone the financial negotiations pending the termination of the Palestine question and the return of the Lebanese Premier to Beirut. He further states that the agreement has also been postponed to an indefinite date, and that the "Cairo Gentleman Agreement" has been extended until the end of 1948.

COMMUNIQUE.....

Alif Ra: The Press Department has issued the following communiqué:

"The Council of Ministers was convened at 6 o'clock on October 25, 1948, at the Serail under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, who after explaining the results of his recent visit, discussed the budgets submitted by the Ministries and Official Departments, as well as the currency problems. He then considered the reports submitted on the Refugees problem and completed all the other pending questions. The meeting lasted until 9 p.m."

SYRIA WOULD NOT RETURN TO FRANCO BLOC

Al Alam: "Everything reported by the newspapers of the Syrian currency and the possible return to the Franco Bloc is untrue and mere fabrication", said to-day Finance Minister Wahbi al-Hariri.

The Minister then commented that Syria has declared its currency's independence, and "the country would very shortly feel the effects of its independence".

(Pr. Dig. 204/5)

#### HIGHLIGHTS IN ECONOMIC FILES

An Naar: Our reporter learns that the counter project which the Lebanese Government had promised to submit to include new proposals for import and export policy has been actually presented to the Syrian Government which has immediately convened a meeting at the Office of the Supreme Council of Syrian Interests to discuss the project.

Reliable sources believe that the economic talks between Syria and Lebanon would be shortly resumed on the basis of this new Lebanese project with the hope of reaching a compromise economic agreement.

#### NO LOAN TO 'IRAQ

Al Balad: Hachim Khalaf, 'Iraqi delegate in the International Council for Economic Reconstruction, has declared in Paris that the said Council had refused the grant of loan to 'Iraq, in spite of the fact that 'Iraq is a member-state in the Council. He had further expressed his astonishment for this refusal, particularly because the Bank's constitution provides that it has been established for assistance in economic reconstruction.

#### ALEPPAN JEWS ACQUIRE LANDS IN LEBANON

Al 'Ajam: Our special reporter learns that the Jews of Aleppo who had immigrated to Beirut, Lebanon, have been attempting through the Lebanese Jews to purchase and acquire lands in Shadun area to erect buildings in this region. Is it a step towards Zionist plan to secure areas for expansion in Lebanon?

#### NO MORE RARE CURRENCY TO STUDENTS

An Naar: The Exchange Office has informed the Council of Ministers of its inability to supply new students sent abroad with the necessary rare currencies, and that the Office is exerting all efforts to acquire rare currencies to supply the missions ~~as~~ presently abroad.

#### EMPLOYEES OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING PRESS ON STRIKE

An Naar: The employees of the Government Printing Press have launched a strike yesterday in protest against the Government's failure to classify them.

A delegation was formed to interview the Director of Finance who promised to look into their problem. They later proceeded to the Presidency and registered their names, after submitting to the Chief Bureau of the Presidency a petition of their claims.

(Pr. Dig. 204/8)

ASSAULT ON GENDARMES AND MIRA OFFICIAL

An Nasr: Reports received in the Capital inform that the Landowner Sulayman Sa'ad Allah al-Dandashl and his followers have attacked a Syrian Gendarme and a Mira Official and robbed them of their clothing and arms.

The Lebanese Gendarmes in collaboration with the Syrian has up-to-date detained seven of those outlaws and is pursuing the escapees.

The incident occurred on the Syro-Lebanese frontier.

CORRUPTIVE FOREIGN MAGAZINE BANNED

An Nasr: The Ministry of Interior has taken a decision prohibiting the entry and sale of 'Paris Hollywood', a French Magazine, for printing photographs which corrupt the general character. The directorate of Police has been instructed to watch all bookstores for any infringement.

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PRESS DIGEST, No. 205 - WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27, 1948

Papers Reviewed: Alef Ba', Barada, Al Ayyam, Al Hifah,  
Al Insha', Al 'Alam, Al Qabas, Al Jabal,  
Ad Duha, Ash Shabab, Al Jabal

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### P A L E S T I N E

#### SYRIAN ARMY COMMUNIQUE :

Barada: We have received the following communique dated October 26, 1948, from the General Command of the Syrian Army:

"The Zionist gangsters are still violating the terms of the truce. They have launched an attack on Monday morning, October 25, 1948, on Darbasyya Police Station in Jisr Banat Ya'qub area, but were repelled by our forces stationed there. The Jews escaped leaving behind one killed, a gun, and some ammunition.

"The gangsters have again violated the terms of the truce by launching an attack on Al Mashtuf Police Station, but the station guards opened heavy fire on them for half-an-hour after which the gangsters were compelled to withdraw in the direction of Tuba. One of our patrols in banias district surprised a Jewish patrol planting mines in the district between Tel-'Uzayzat and 'Umda and forced them to withdraw leaving behind some ammunition and over sixteen mines.

ARAB DELEGATIONS TO UN URGE RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING

Al Kifah: The political correspondent of Al Kifah informs that the Syrian Prime Minister as well as Prime Ministers of all other Arab States have received a message of greatest importance from the Arab Delegations to UN General Assembly, under their signatures, to the effect that following the lengthy discussion of the Palestinian question from all angles, they came to a convincing conclusion that the question can ONLY be solved by fighting in the valleys and plateaux of Palestine and by the realization of a decisive victory on Israel.

Prime Minister Jamil Mardam Bey confirmed the news to our reporter last night and stated that the question will naturally be the foremost concern of the Arab States at the present time.

RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING IN HIGHLIGHT

Alef Ba': Our reporter informs that decisive and hasty measures have been taken among Syrian Military circles to confront the situation which had been lately developing seriously toward the resumption of the fighting in all Palestine fronts following the continuous Jewish truce violations.

Our reporter quotes a reliable political source as stating that fighting will possibly be resumed within the coming 48 hours should the Jews continue their violations, for the Arab States have taken the necessary preparations.

A meeting was convened yesterday morning at the Presidency of the Republic attended by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.....(CENSORSHIP).....and it is learnt that the execution of the 'Amman and Damascus Conferences resolutions were discussed.

ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM KING 'ABDALLAH

Alef Ba': Sayed Farhat Shubaylat, the TJ Minister to Lebanon, is expectedly leaving 'Amman for Beirut. ANA reports that the Minister will pass through Damascus to deliver to the President of the Syrian Republic another message from King 'Abdallah. Shubaylat had called on President Quwwatli on his trip to 'Amman and handed him the first message from the King.

(Pr. Dig. 205/3)

NEWS IN HEADLINES

Alef Ba': ARABS ON THEIR WAY OF WASHING OFF THEIR HANDS OF UN.  
JAMIAN CONFERENCE RESULTED IN CHASTISING THE GAMB. JAMAL AL HUSAYNI VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FINAL ISSUE.

Al 'Alam: PALESTIN SUPPORTS THE ARABS AND DECIDES TO DESPATCH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE.

MORE AIR RAID SHELTERS IN DAMASCUS

Al 'Alam: The Muhafaza of Damascus has asked the Ministry of Interior an allotment of one million Syrian Pounds for the building in Damascus of modern air raid shelters with cement and iron.

CONDITIONS OF REFUGEES

Barada: Asked about the condition of refugees in his Muhafaza, the Muhafez of Huran stated that their condition necessitates the collaboration of all countries to save them from their miserable condition.

An official source told our reporter that Syria has not received any international aid worth mentioning, and that all that reached Syria was some tents and fifty cans of condensed milk. The source also added that the number of refugees sheltered in Syria is 160 thousand distributed as follows:

- 70 thousand in Damascus and Muhafaza of Damascus,
- 10 thousand in the Muhafaza of Aleppo,
- 8 thousand in the Muhafaza of Homs,
- 7 thousand in the Muhafaza of Hama,
- 5 thousand in the Muhafaza of Latakia,
- 16 thousand in the Muhafaza of Huran,

and the rest are distributed among the other Syrian towns.

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

COVER OF SYRIAN CURRENCY

Al 'Alam: Press reporters learn that the Ministry of Finance has submitted to the Council of Ministers a project for the cover of the Syrian Currency. This project provides for covering the currency with gold, without touching the reserve fund, by buying ingots from the world markets in return for exports. This project will be considered by the Council of Ministers. Approved For Release 2007/03/08 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001500130015-4  
in this project and the proportion of foreign currency cover.

(Pr. Dig. 205/4)

#### FINAL SEPARATION FROM FRANC BLOC

Alef Ba': Our correspondent called on the Prime Minister and posed the following question:

"What is the Syrian Government's attitude toward what has been published in the press on the Franco-Syrian talks on the currency affairs and particularly what had been published by 'Orient' to the effect that the Syrian Council of Ministers had met and decided to sign the Franco-Lebanese agreement?"

Prime Minister Jamil Mardam bey replied as follows:

"What has been published by the press particularly by the aforementioned paper is untrue. All there is to it is what I had previously declared in the House to the effect that France was indebted to Syria and that talks had been resumed to liquidate these accounts. I reiterate that we have finally separated from the Franc Bloc and will never return to it."

Al Kifah: Minister of State, Lutfi al-Haffar told our reporter that the Council of Ministers has not yet concluded its studies of the project of Mr. Buisson. Any contrary sayings are false.

Lutfi Bey further added that the project is actually contradictory to the Agreement signed between France and Lebanon. "We are still holding to our opinion that our directives in our relations with France are built on liquidation. We are now studying the best means of reaching to final liquidation."

#### FOREIGN PROGRAMS IN BROADCASTING

Al Ayyam: It has been decided that the Damascus Broadcasting Station will start at the beginning of November to broadcast foreign programs in English and French, which will include news bulletins and music.

#### AVIATION AGREEMENT WITH GREECE

Alef Ba': Secretary General of Ministry of Public Works, Mur-al-Din Kahhalah, told our reporter that the Syrian Government's talks with the Greek Minister to Syria has ended and that the approval of the Greek Government to the draft agreement is awaited.

NEW DIRECTOR FOR ANTI-SMUGGLING

Al 'Alam: Lieutenant-Colonel 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Hakim (on pension), previously Chief of the Air Force, has been appointed Director of Anti-Smuggling Section at the Mira Directorate, in succession to Major Shafiq al-Mamluk who returned to his previous duty in the Gendarmerie.

WHY FRENCH PROFESSORS?

Barada: Referring to the statement by Munir Bey al-'Ajlani, Minister of Public Instruction, to the effect that he had engaged French Professors as lecturers in the Syrian University, Barada writes:

"We are astonished that the Minister of Public Instruction had resorted to engage French lecturers three years after the evacuation of French employees and imperial armies from Syria. We assert that those lecturers shall work only for the benefit of their country. In Central Europe, lecturers are available for salaries less than those which will have to be paid to the French lecturers with whom the Minister has already contracted."

The paper then remarks that Britain, America, and Russia have hurried since the downfall of Germany to contract with German and Austrian lecturers, and questions:

"Are we ashamed therefore to contract with such Professors, who are ready to work for salaries not exceeding those paid to the Syrian lecturers?"

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Approved For Release 2007/03/08 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001500130015-4

# AMERICAN LEGATION

★ DAMASCUS ★

## Daily Review of the Syrian Press

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The following is an informal digest of material from the local Arabic Press, and is in no way to be considered as an official translation. It should not be quoted nor attributed to the Legation.

RESTRICTED - (For Staff Use Only)

PRESS DIGEST No.206, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1948.

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### NEWSPAPERS REVIEWED:

Alef Ba', Al Kifah, Al Alam, Barada, An Nasr,  
Al Insha', An Nasr, Ash-Shabab, And Ad-Duha.

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### P A L E S T I N E

### TRUSTEESHIP OVER AMERICA:

An Nasr: In a lengthy editorial, the editor writes:

"If the Arab States were daring in their foreign policy, courageous in facing their big-power enemies, they could have stabbed them in the heart before the whole world. They could have stabbed America, the storekeeper of the atomic bombs, owner of the skyscrapers, and the biggest producer of the flying fortresses, by a measure which will not cost them much trouble and weariness: by instructing their delegations at Chaillot Palace to demand the imposition of international trusteeship over America. Imagine Faris al-Khuri, the respectable delegate of this country, entering in warm and inciting discussions with the delegates of the big powers. Imagine Faris

al Khuri.....

al-Khuri standing in the middle of the hall of the Chaillot Palace in front of fifty-two delegations of various countries, and demanding the imposition of UN trusteeship over the USA, which silences all tongues with its dollars. America is still a playful child carrying dangerous weapons which threaten the world with destruction. If this is untrue, then how can we explain this confusion in its foreign policy as well as its interior policy? Let us take the Palestine question as an example to point out the childishness of America, and the unripeness of its political policy:

"The USA was first supporter of Great Britain in working for the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine in spite of the fact that this policy caused bloodshed. The American delegate was the first to demand an embargo on the shipment of arms to the Near East with a view of reducing the bitterness of the fight, while the American Government did not refrain from supplying the Jews not only with light arms but also with flying fortresses, of which Britain wishes to possess some. The US delegates, particularly Mr. Marshall, have often declared that America would support Bernadotte's proposals and would demand their full implementation by force; but we hear on the other hand President Truman declaring his support for the original partition scheme of November 29, 1947.

"Is not this playful childishness? Is not America a danger to world security with all its deadly weapons?

"It is only therefore natural for us, who have suffered most from America, to demand the imposition of UN trusteeship over it."

#### NO MORE CONFIDENCE IN UN

Al Kifah: Following the recent debates which took place in the Security Council around the Egyptians' complaint of Jewish truce violations in the Negev, Jamil Nardam Bay stated:

"The Arabs have lost all confidence in the Security Council and in the UN. We will, therefore, pay no concern or attention to what they say. In the past we doubted the intentions of the UN, but to-day we are certain that this Organization is inclined towards the criminal Jews. Hence it does not deserve the confidence of the Arab States!"

(Pr. Dig. 206/3)

DISGUST OVER ATTITUDE OF PRESIDENT OF SC

Barada: News from Paris reports that the unjustified behaviour of Senator Warren Austin, US delegate and President of the Security Council, in adjourning the discussions on truce violation in Palestine caused great disgust among some delegates of the Security Council. The US haughtiness and disrespect of others astonished even the British delegate.

It is also reported that the Egyptian delegate, Mahmud Fawzi Bey, showed an skill and cleverness in declaring his Government's point of view, while the American delegate's attitude was disliked by most members.

STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO BARAZI

Al Kifah: Formin Barazi made the following statement to the press and foreign correspondents:

"The Arabs are in agreement and collaboration on the substance and details of the Palestine question. We are still holding a defensive attitude, and hope that the expected decision of the Security Council would include decisive measures to stop Zionist aggression and avoid disturbances in this section of the East. We also hope that the UN decision will be just for a peaceful solution for the Palestine question."

KING 'ABDALLAH CONFIRMS MARDAM'S STATEMENT:

Al Kifah: King 'Abdallah of Transjordan described to ANA the Amman Conference, and said that he had very little to add to what had been stated by Mardam Bey and Naqrashi Pasha, who spoke of what had exactly taken place in the Conference.

He added: "The 'Amman talks were fruitful particularly because they gave an opportunity for the Arab Leaders to meet, and discuss the developments in the Arab world, and examine the affairs as they are."

NEWS IN HEADLINES

Al Kifah: ISRAEL INFORMED THE MEDIATOR OF ITS DISOBEDIENCE OF SECURITY COUNCIL'S ORDER TO WITHDRAW FROM THE NEGEV.  
CASUALTIES OF JEWS IN BELT JIBRIN: 4 ARMOURD CARS AND 40 KILLED.



### MORE JEWISH DEFEATS

Al Kifah: Only one battle was reported in Palestine, namely that of Beit Jibrin when the Jews launched an attack at 6 a.m. yesterday morning and entangled with the TJ forces. The battle which lasted until 1 p.m. resulted in the defeat of the enemy and its loss of 7 armoured cars, which were completely damaged, and 40 killed.

A Jewish commentator broadcast last night that in the Northern Front, the Arabs are still encircling Al Hanara and isolating it from the Tiberias-Aetulla Road.

### M I S C E L L A N E O U S

#### OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE

An Nasr: The following communique was issued yesterday evening after a long meeting of the Council of Ministers:

"The Council of Ministers met this evening at 6 p.m. Wednesday, October 27, 1948, at the Serail under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Jamil Mardam Bey, in which the various questions submitted to the Council were discussed.

"In the meeting, it was decided that the Syrian delegation to the Arab League Political Committee would be composed as follows: Prime Minister JAMIL MARDAM BEY, Minister of State and Vice-Premier LUTFI AL HAFER, and Foreign Minister MUHSIN AL BARAZI.

"It was also decided that the Syrian delegation to the third session of the UNESCO which will be held in Beirut during November next would be composed as follows: Minister of Public Instruction MUNIR AL 'AJLANI as chairman, and the membership of SHAFIQ JABRI, JAMIL SALIBA, JAMAL AL FARRA, and 'UMAR ABU RISHA.

"The meeting lasted until 10:30 p.m."

#### REMAIN AT YOUR STATIONS

Al Insha': Draftees born in 1929 were prohibited from leaving their districts without special leave from the authorities concerned. It is learnt that it has been decided to call up draftees born in 1928 before the end of this year.

MILITARY ORDER No. 127, DATED OCT. 27

An Nasr: "The Military Governor,

"in accordance with law No. 400 dated May 15, 1948, imposing martial law in the territory of the Syrian Republic, and

"in accordance with decision dated May 17, 1948, confirmed in decree No. 1070, dated May 17, 1948, and

"in accordance with the exigencies of National Defence,

hereby orders:

"1. all inhabitants and citizens to surrender all sorts of arms in their possession, whether licensed or unlicensed, to the Ministry of National Defence during a period not exceeding twenty days as from the date of issue of this order, according to the attached instruction,

"2. Compensations will be paid for all arms and ammunition surrendered during the fixed period, according to the estimates of the Ministry of National Defence.

"3. Every one who fails to surrender the arms and ammunition in his possession during the fixed period, his arms and ammunition will be confiscated, and he will be sued in military law courts under article 5 of law No. 400 dated May 15, 1948. and the other laws in force.

"4. The Ministry of National Defence is charged with the execution of this order."

HAS SYRIA SIGNED CURRENCY AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE?

Al Insha': The Lebanese Deputy Premier has stated in reply to a question that the Lebanese Government has not been notified by the Syrian Government that the latter has signed a currency agreement with France, and added that he has personally known from Paris reports and from French sources in Beirut that the Syrian Government has actually signed this agreement, but the reason for keeping it a mystery is still unknown.

FRANCO-SYRIAN CONTACT

Al 'Alam: We have learnt that France has submitted new proposals to the Syrian Government regarding the conclusion of a financial treaty between the two countries, and that that those proposals were the subject of consideration by the Council of Ministers. A Government official has stated that

a definite decision will be announced in this respect during the coming two weeks, and that the decision will either be positive or negative without any chance for postponement.

#### NEW SYRO-LEBANESE FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

Barada: Our Beirut correspondent states that the Syrian and Lebanese ministers of Finance and National Economy have initialed the new financial agreement between the two countries in the presence of Musa Mubarak, after affecting some amendments in the original agreement. It has also been decided to keep the agreement restricted pending the return of the Lebanese Premier from his mission in Paris.

#### NEW TREATY BETWEEN SYRIA AND YAMAN

Al Insha': Al Ahram correspondent in Paris learns that the Counsellor of the Yaman delegation at the UN will shortly arrive in Damascus carrying a draft economic and political treaty to be concluded between Syria and Yaman, within the Arab League Charter. The said Counsellor has himself supervised the drafting of this treaty by the two countries' delegations at the UN. It is believed that this treaty will be signed very soon.

#### LABOR STRIKE IN LATTAKIA

Al Kifah: The laborers of the Asphalt Company in Kafrine-Haffeh have launched a strike against the Company (French) for failing to comply with their claims. The strike has developed into an assault on the Company and on the new laborers which it had employed instead.

Gendarmerie had intervened and detained 80 of the laborers and encircled the Company to protect it of further attacks.

#### KEROSENE AND BURGHOL RATIONS TO LABORERS

Al Kifah: President of the Federation of Labor Unions, Subhi al-Khatib, has informed us that measures have been taken by the Union to take over the distribution of kerosene and burghol to the laborers members of the Syndicates, and that they had contacted the Ministry of National Defence to draw its attention that all necessities and requirements of the Army could be ensured from domestic productions.

The President further informed that an agreement has been reached with one of the national hospitals for free medical treatment of the laborers against cheap monthly payments.

MAJOR SANDERSON'S HUMANITARIAN DEEDS:

Al Kifah publishes the following letter addressed to the Editor:

"It is strongly grieving to me as well as to a great number of my brother Arab refugees of Palestine not to witness any relief work to our children since the time when the Zionist terrorism compelled us to emigrate, although it is understood that the relief of children is necessary.

"While I point out this painful fact which is grieving to the souls of the fathers of the refugees, I have to mention that Major Sanderson, one of the Staff of the American Legation in Damascus, was the sole person who was interested in the subject and who tried to solve it through his own means, inspired by mere humanitarian feelings.

"For two months, Major Sanderson has been inviting five new refugee children daily except on Sundays to share with him luncheon. He was also inviting daily my three children in addition to the other five.

"In addition, Major Sanderson was projecting small cinemas shows on every Saturday evening as relief to the children. He used to invite about 35-40 children. He used to offer to his young guests some sweets and refreshments and make them feel that they were not completely ignored and that there was a person who shared their feeling that they were children entitled to enjoy a little of relief which they enjoyed at their original homes.

"How impressed we, the fathers of these children, were to see the children returning home after these film entertainments full of courage and enthusiasm for the films usually projected were produced during the Second World War especially to incite the spirit of fighting among the American soldiers.

"I learned that Major Sanderson has ceased his humanitarian relief works since weeks and that his circumstances may permit him to resume them shortly.

"I would like to mention on this occasion that we have friends among the Americans who do not forget their feeling toward the suffering humanity, I avail myself of this opportunity to request our Arab women and men to give to these children some of their concerns and relief in order that the children regain the warm and delicate atmosphere of family life, for it is very dangerous for them to be raised in a severe atmosphere.

(Pr. Dig. 206/8)

"My word is only to pay tribute to the man who deserves appreciation and to invite the Arabs to do a little for the relief of the refugee children for they are the pillars of the coming generation on whom the responsibility of protecting Arabism of Palestine falls.

(Sgd.) Guest of Bab Tuma,

Father of three children."

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# AMERICAN LEGATION

★ DAMASCUS ★

## Daily Review of the Syrian Press

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RESTRICTED - (For Staff Use Only)

PRESS DIGEST No. 207, <sup>Friday</sup>~~Thursday~~, OCTOBER, 29, 1943  
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NEWSPAPERS REVIEWED:

Alef Ba', An Nasr, Al Fayha', Al Ayyam, Al Qabas,  
Al Insha', Al Alam, Ad-Duha, An Nazir, Ash-Shabab,

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P A L E S T I N E

BEWARE IMPERIALISTIC PLOTS - Editorial:

Al'Alam editorially writes

"Yesterday, the representative of the Jewish gangs declared in the Security Council that the Zionist gangsters consider the areas which they occupied lately in the Negev as Jewish lands under the UN Partition Scheme, and hence they shall not withdraw their forces from that area.

"Yesterday, Mr. Shertok cabled the UN Mediator that the Jews refuse to withdraw from the area which they occupied during the recent fight in the Negev,

"There is no doubt that these declarations show that Jewish plans aim at swallowing gradually Arab areas, under the flag of false truce, before any decision on the Palestine,

Question...

(Pr.Dig.207/2)

Question is taken in the UN, thus putting the UN in front of a fait accompli, as has been happening since May 14, 1948.

"After these declarations, the Arabs should take a firm stand towards the Zionists, which is only achieved by the resumption of fighting, this resumption which is strongly supported by the Arab people. The English have realized this fact, and have, therefore, started a campaign of maneuvers and plots against the Arabs aiming at protecting the truce by proposing the formation of a committee from the members of the SC to consider the possibilities of implementing the UN decisions by force, as has been declared by a British spokesman in Paris.

"This is an English plot aiming at preventing the firm stand which the Arabs are to take, as has happened before. The English consider this undetermined stand of our very suitable for executing their imperialistic interests in an Arab World suffering from Zionist-Anglo-American blow.

"It is a plot to kill in our spirits the anxiety for fighting, and beware that this plot might not find its way to the spirits of our commanders, for the Arab nation has finally resolved that the Palestine question shall be solved only in Palestine itself, and any decision in this respect to the contrary shall be considered by the nation as high treason for which one has to be severely punished. Beware these imperialistic plots! "

#### RESORT TO PETROLEUM WEAPON - Editorial:

Al Qabas: This paper quotes a statement to Faris al Khuri that "the resumption of fighting in Palestine is the best means to preserve the honor of the Arabs, to save Palestine, and to put out the Jews." In reply to a question of his opinion on the Arab States' attitude toward the SC's imposition of sanctions if the Arabs resume the fighting, Faris al Khuri is quoted as having stated: "I am of those who give no importance to these sanctions, it is enough that the Arabs states cut off the Western states of petroleum in the way of a severe reply to these sanctions which might be imposed on them."

The paper then comments in part:

The Shaykh of Peace and the Genius of politics (Faris al-Khuri) recommended such a solution after his despair from the equity and justice of the UN.

(Pr.Dig.207/3)

None of the Arabs know the secret for the thousands of question and interrogation marks posed for the failure of Arabian Peninsula to resort to the use of petroleum weapon to liberate Palestine?... Petroleum in the hands of the Arabs is stronger than the Atomic bomb in the hands of America. Why do not they employ it to rescue the Holy Lands instead of addressing calls, shedding tears, and making statements which have until now resulted with only the dispersement of more refugees and the increase of Arab misery day by day?... Here is Professor Faria al-Khuri despatching from Paris a message to the Kings of petrols in Iraq and Najid and emphasizing the fact that the best reply to the possible imposition of sanctions on the Arabs would be the prevention of petroleum?

This is the opinion of a person who is 'au courant' of all the secrets of the Security Council and the conduct of the UN, which he has followed since its birth, thus becoming expert in its resolutions and sanctions more than any other delegate. He has learned the key for the rescue of the Arabs. He asked them to "save the bloodshed of their brothers by shedding petroleum."

We would like to enquire here: If Iraq cuts off the British Companies of petroleum, would England resort to the fighting of Iraq?... Should Najid cut off the United States of Petroleum, would America resort to the occupation of the Country?... This is far from possible.. but let us suppose it would happen, the defeat of the Arabs in fighting against these two great powers of the world, which are very much superior to the Arabs in arms and force, will only give honor to the Arabs, whereas it would be a shame to be defeated by the Jews....

What would be the use of the Kingdoms and Courts, if the nations are spotted with shame and defeat in front of the Jews?... What use is the Arab League which had imposed its existence on the world and gained ten seats in the UN when a gang of Jewish criminals, the deportees of the world to Palestine, defeat it?...

The resumption of fighting and the cutting off of petroleum is proposed by a responsible person and not by an enthusiastic journalist, This is the opinion of a person who is aware of what he is saying and knows his responsibility. The Arab leaders have, therefore, to listen and comply with his call!...

REFUGEES...



(Pr.Dig.207/4)

REFUGEES QUESTION:

Al Ayyam: The inspector of the refugees' condition in Syria reported to the Government after his recent visit to Aleppo, Homs, and Hama, the following:

The number of refugees in Aleppo district exceeds 8,800, most of them distributed among the Aleppo villages, and only 2,734 remained in Aleppo itself. While in Hama, the refugees number 1,320, and they have had no help whatsoever for the last ten days. In Homs however, the number of refugees amounts to 1,800, and they also have had not help whatsoever for the last ten days.

The report adds that the inhabitants of some villages in the neighbourhood of Aleppo have refrained from sheltering some refugees in their villages owing to their extreme poverty, and the refugees have therefore preferred to remain in Aleppo in a miserable condition.

Al Alam: The Syrian Government has been informed by the UN International Relief Committee that it has charged Mr. Godflow with relief work on its behalf in Damascus. Mr. Godflow is well-known to be friendly to Arabs.

MORE COMMISSIONS FOR PALESTINE:

Alef Ba': Official quarters in New York have stated that the United States of America has supported the British Chinese proposal for the formation of a committee to solve the question of the Palestinians.

RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING COMMUNICATED TO UN:

Alef Ba': Our reporter informs that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has requested by cable Faris Bey al Khuri to communicate to the UN the Arabs' decision to resume the fighting in Palestine should the Jews fail to cease fire.

POTENTIALITIES AT THE DISPOSAL OF DEFENSE MINISTRY:

Al Fayha: A long meeting between Jamil Mardam Bey and Ahmad al-Rifa'i the Minister of Public Works is reported here.

It is believed that the Prime Minister demanded at this meeting that all the technical engineers and other potentialities of the Ministry of Public Works be placed, at the disposal of the Ministry of Defense in view of the tense condition in the country.

(Pr.Dig.207/5)

LEBANON PROTESTS AGAINST AMMAN:

Al Fayha': The Lebanese Minister of Foreign Affairs has labelled as false the news lately published to the effect that the Lebanon has launched a protest against the non-convention of Lebanon to the Amman Conference.

The Minister added that the question of ignoring Lebanon would be raised in the Arab League Council.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

SPREAD OF TYPHOID:

Al Qabas: A famous physician in the Capital stated to our reporter that Typhoid has extensively spread in the city and that he alone treated 1700 cases. He alleged that the disease has originated from Beirut. Therefore, Why the Department of Hygiene has not carried out a general inoculation of the population against this spreading disease.

ANY EMBEZZLEMENT?...

Al Qabas: The Ministry of Finance has appointed an inspector to examine the accounts of the camps of the Palestine Liberation Committee.

A CONSULAR DIRECTOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY:

Al Qabas: Maitre Farid -Al-Shalawi has been decreed as Director of the Consular Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Maitre Shahlawi is known as a first class lawyer and writer in the french language. He served in the Belgian Legation in Damascus for many years as judicial, commercial, and political counsellor.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs should be praised for this choice owing to the fact that Maitre Shahlawi possesses the necessary qualifications for a senior official of the Foreign Affairs.

ANY ....

(Pr.Dig.207/6)

ANY TAPLINE TALKS IN LIGHT?...

Alef Ba': Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhsin Bey Barazi has labelled as false and unfounded the news lately published to the effect that Britain has offered the United States of America its readiness to intervene with the Arab States, particularly with Syria, on the question of obtaining concession to TAPLINE for the extension of petroleum pipelines across its territory. He said that no talks with TAPLINE on this subject have been resumed.

SYRIA'S GOLD CARRIED TO BEIRUT:

Al Insha': The Beirut 'An-Nidal' reported that about 500,000 gold sovereigns were transferred to Lebanon by Syrian merchants when Lebanon refused the Syrian currency.

LIFTING OF FRONTIER BARRIERS BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES:

Al Insha': A responsible official in the Arab League quarters stated that the matter of passports between Arab countries and the facilitation of travels between each other has been placed on the agenda of the Council.

The statesman further added that there is an idea of lifting the travel restrictions between the Arab countries in future, but, he said, it needs time for its resolution and then its enforcement.

INEFFICIENCY OF MIRA:

Al Insha': In a two-column article this paper criticizes the MIRA for failing to treat the farmers equally and for suppressing only the poor by taking his crop while leaving the big farmers and cultivators, mostly members of Parliament, free to dispose of their crops as they desire. The attention of the MIRA is, therefore, drawn to this matter which would ensure to it the required quantity of wheat.

STALIN'S REPLIES TO PRAVDA QUESTIONS:

All morning papers front-paged today Stalin's answers to six questions posed by Pravda regarding Berlin question. An Nasr was the only paper to headline them dramatically; it published them in full under the following headline

and short...

(Pr.Dig.207/7)

and short comment:

"YES..... AND THIS IS TRUE:

"STALIN ROLLS THE REPUTATION OF HIS ADVERSARIES WITH MUD OF DUPLICITY AND DECEIT.

"Following is the text of Stalin's statements in which the reader will find a new color of frankness and clearness, which could not be found in the statements of other big statesmen. The statements are characterized by their literary tone and by their firm expressions."

DEPARTURE TO CAIRO POSTPONED:

An Nasr: It is learnt that the departure of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Cairo, scheduled on Saturday, may be postponed a few days.

DISCUSSION OF ARSLAN'S RESIGNATION:

An Nasr: The Council of Ministers has discussed Amir 'Adil Arslan's resignation from the Syrian delegation in Paris in the light of the reports submitted by Faris Bey al-Khuri, head of the delegation.

An Nasr correspondent learns that this question of resignation has already been settled, and that the Amir has withdrawn it and resumed his function as member of the Delegation.

NEW CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN WASHINGTON:

An Nasr: It has been decided to transfer Baha'-al-Din al-Bakri Charge d'Affaires in the Syrian Legation in Baghdad, to the same position in Washington.

FRENCH DEPUTY AND PROMINENT JOURNALIST IN DAMASCUS:

An Nasr: The French deputy and journalist, Mr. Maurice Muttre has arrived in Damascus yesterday. He registered his name in the Presidency, and called on the Foreign Minister who gave a lunch party in his honor at Damascus Club.

Mr. Muttre is an ex-French Minister, presently member of  
the Political

(Pr.Dig.207/3)

the Political Committee in the French National Council, and publisher of "Parole Francaise" which is a supporter to Arab points of view.

EUPHRATES WATER PROJECT:

An Nasr: A representative of the Danish Technical Research Company arrived yesterday in Damascus and interviewed the Minister of Public Works. A representative of the Greek Technical Research Company had arrived earlier and met the Secretary General of the said Ministry. Our reporter learns that these companies will consider, together with the others already in Damascus, the question of supplying Aleppo with the water of the Euphrates River.

ASSYRIAN EMIGRATION TO BRAZIL:

An Nasr: Rio de Janeiro news reports that the Brazilian Government has approved the collective immigration of Syrian and Lebanese Assyrians to Brazil, and their settlement there as farmers. Necessary arrangements are being made for the immigration of 2500 Assyrians living in Syria in the next two months.

FRANCO-SYRIAN FINANCIAL TALKS:

Al Ayyam: Some papers have published yesterday a statement attributed to the Lebanese Deputy Premier to the effect that Syria has already signed a currency agreement with France. Asked about the truth in that statement, Prime Minister Jamil Mardam Bey said that he very much doubted the statement attributed to Gabriel Murr, asserted that Franco-Syrian relations do not go beyond the liquidation of Syrian assets presently in the hands of France, and emphasized that Syria would never rejoin the Franc Bloc. As to the signing of an agreement with France, the Prime Minister denied it, and asserted that French proposals for the liquidation of Syrian interests are under consideration by the Council of Ministers which, if found suitable, would be submitted to Parliament for final ratification.

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# AMERICAN LEGATION

★ DAMASCUS ★

## Daily Review of the Syrian Press

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RESTRICTED (For Staff Use Only)

Press Digest No. 209 - TUESDAY, November 2, 1948

PAPERS REVIEWED: Alef Ba', An Nasr, Barada, Al Fayha',  
Al Balad, Al Qabas, and An Nazir.

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### P A L E S T I N E

#### AFGHANISTAN RECOGNIZES PALESTINE GOVERNMENT

An Nasr: Ahmad Hilmi Pasha, the Prime Minister of all Palestine, has declared following the adjournment of the Arab League meeting yesterday that he has received the official recognition by the Afghanistan Government of the all-Palestine Government.

#### DOES TRANSJORDAN RECOGNIZE PALESTINE GOVERNMENT?

Al Fayha': The Foreign Minister of all Palestine Government has announced that he has officially received the unconditional recognition of the Transjordan Government of all Palestine Provisional Government.

On the other hand, Barada, publishes verses of the King's Speech read by the TJ Prime Minister in the Chamber of Deputies. As regards the Gaza Government, the King's Speech is quoted as running:

"Although we ...

"Although we have not agreed to the establishment in Gaza of the Palestine Government, this is not the vital issue. The difference is on the time. Palestine must undoubtedly have a Government, but it must be formed in compliance with the desire of the majority of the country's free inhabitants."

#### LEBANON AND THE PALESTINE GOVERNMENT

An Nasr: The NEBS has stated that Camille Sham'un will question the Lebanese Government at the next meeting of the Chamber of Deputies about its attitude towards the all Palestine Government, and about the diplomatic relations between Lebanon and the said Government. The broadcast added that communications of the Lebanese Government with Ahmad Hilmi's Government had been suspended pending the return of the Lebanese Foreign Minister from Cairo, and that the said suspension had been suggested by the Arab League Secretariat.

#### ARAB KINGS' AND CHIEFS' MEETING

Barada: There are all indications that the Arab Kings and Chiefs will be holding a meeting somewhere during the Arab League Council's meetings.

The Palestine question and the best means to be adopted for its rescue would believably be discussed in this meeting.

#### TERMINATION OF WAR OPERATIONS IN LEBANESE FRONT

An Nasr: The Lebanese Ministry of Defence has announced an official communique stating that the fierce battles which ensued a week ago in the northern front between the liberation forces and the Jewish gangsters have now terminated. The enemy had aimed at driving our forces away from the Galilee District. Facing a large force of armored cars and airplanes our forces have moved to new stations after inflicting heavy losses upon the enemy.

The Ministry concluded its communique by warning the Lebanese citizens from believing the rumors spread about these battles, and labelling them as false.

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### SERIOUS MEETING?...

An Nasr: After the meeting of the Council of Ministers before yesterday at the Serail, a serious meeting was convened .....(CENSORSHIP).....somewhere in Syria..... (CENSORSHIP).....army, and lasted for three consecutive hours..... (CENSORSHIP).....

Yesterday early morning, the Prime Minister left the Capital for .....(CENSORSHIP)..... and returned at 1:30 p.m. He called on the President and reported to him on the general military condition in the various fronts.

### MORE REFUGEES IN SYRIA...

Alef Ba': Twenty thousand newly dispersed refugees from the Galilee District have arrived recently in Syria following the latest Jewish truce violations in the northern district of Palestine. Preparations are being made for their subsistence and sheltering.

### ARABIC TO BE HEARD AT UN!

An Nasr: The Egyptian delegation to the UN has reported that the arab delegations to UN will demand the consideration of the Arabic language as an official language of UN, on equal footing with English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

### JEWISH INFLUENCE DWINDLED WITH TRUMAN'S FAILURE

Al Gabas: American Political Circles believe that Jewish influence will diminish in the American offices should Harry Truman fail in the elections for the Presidency, because most of the Jewish organizations and influential persons belong to the Democratic Party.

Since 1933, the Jews realizing that the power had gone to the Democratic Party had joined this party and succeeded in dominating the political potentialities of America by supporting and then influencing the Party.

With the failure of this Party, and the election of Dewey and his Republican Party which comprises few Jewish elements, the American Foreign policy, particularly towards the Palestine question, would be considerably altered, despite the electoral statements attributed to Mr. Dewey. Truman's presidency will end in January, but in fact it will end with the declaration of the results of the elections on Wednesday, although he would keep his position in name only until January 1949.



### COMMUNISM IN THE NEAR EAST

Al Balad: This paper reproduces under the above heading an article from the News Bulletin supplied by the USIS:

The American Propaganda Circles have supplied us with a news bulletin in which the Americans clarify Communist Russia's attitude towards the Palestine question, and the reason for its support of the Partition Scheme. We agree with all those American considerations in this respect. But, will the propaganda circles point out to us the reasons which created out of President Truman a courageous knight of criminal Zionism by supporting its projects which depend on barbaric expeditions, criminal assault, captivating women, murdering children and old men, and displacing hundreds of thousands of peaceful persons?

Here is a frank word addressed to the American Propaganda circles:

We, the Arabs, will never forget the great catastrophes which have befallen the Arab and Moslem World as a result of the blunders committed by Truman and his collaborators, the friends of Zionism which is inimical to God and to humanity!

### M I S C E L L A N E O U S

#### ECONOMIC TALKS

An Nasr: The Ministry of National Economy has invited the representatives of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Merchants' Syndicate in Syria to an economic conference, to give their opinion on the new Lebanese proposals. The first meeting lasted for three hours, and our correspondent learnt that many more meetings are on the schedule. A preparatory committee has been composed of Musallam Syufi, Sa'id Za'im, Badr-al-Din Dyab, Wadi' Sa'adah, 'Abd-al-Hamid Dyab, Hunayn Sihawi, Ahmad Samman, and Nassiri Kabbabah. This committee has been charged with considering the present economic relations between Syria and Lebanon, and preparing the agenda for the next general meeting.

Asked about their opinion in the future relations between the two countries, the majority suggested the economic separation of Syria and Lebanon.

WELCOME BACK: MINISTER 'AJLANI

An Nasr: Minister of Public Instruction Munir al-'Ajlani is due to arrive in Damascus by Air France on Wednesday morning. Munir Bey has been touring the various European countries to engage Foreign Professors as lecturers in the Syrian University. The educational institutions in Syria have prepared a great program for his reception.

TAPLINE ATTEMPTS IN SYRIA

Barada: Although Minister Ilian did not resume any economic talks with his Lebanese colleague during his latest visit to Beirut, Habib Abu Shahla approached him over the subject of the extension of Tapline pipelines across the Syrian territory.

Minister Ilian pointed out to the Lebanese lawyer that Syria still holds to its former policy and that although Syria will not fail to fight the Americans with Petroleum through which right is only reflected to the Americans.

COUNTERFEITED CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION

Al Qabas: Forged 100-pound and 50-pound notes have been found in circulation in Beirut. Enquiries by the Police are being conducted to discover the origin and the counterfeiters.

CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT

An Nazir: The People's Party organ criticizes the Government for failing to convene the Parliament to an ordinary session during such a critical time when the Chambers of Transjordan, Iraq, and Lebanon are in session discussing the Palestine question. The paper accuses the Government for fighting the Zionists with 'one hand' and the population's aspirations and desires with the other by preventing them to inquire of what has happened to the Palestine question.

The paper further writes: It seems that the Government is able to carry in one hand what the others fail to hold with two hands, but in fact it is holding nothing, and probably does not realize that there is any responsibility to be assumed.

THIRD....

(Ps.Dig.209/6)

THIRD CONGRESS OF NATIONAL PARTY:

Al Fayha': The Third General Conference of the Nationalist Party will be opened this morning, Tuesday, November 2, 1948 at 10:00 a.m. in Ferial Film Theater.

Invitations have been sent to the members of the Party by the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Party, Habib al Azmah, to attend this Conference in order to discuss and resolve on the subjects on the Agenda.

The Agenda includes the following subjects:

- 1- The Opening Speech by the President of the Party.
- 2- The Election of the Office of the Conference.
- 3- The Statement on the activities of the Party and its general policy to be read by Sabri al Asali.
- 4- The Statement on the Party's economic policy to be read by Mikha'il Ilian.
- 5- The Resolution of the Branch Offices of the Party.
- 6- The Discussion of the subjects decided by the Conference.
- 7- The Amendment of certain internal regulations of the Party.
- 8- The election of three members for the Central Committee.
- 9- The resolution of 1949 Budget of the Party.
- 10- The resolution for the conclusion of the Conference.
- 11- The final speech by the President of the Party.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

An Nasr': The National Educational Committee held a meeting two days ago and discussed the duties of the Arab Governments in UNESCO meeting which will be held in Beirut on 18th instant. Following are the most important recommendations:

1. The unification of opinions of Arab delegations regarding the election of director-general of UNESCO, and filling the nine vacancies in the executive council.
2. The preparation of the Arab States to welcome the competitions.

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competitions of youths which will be organized by the UNESCO as far as they are acquainted with the land regulations of the country.

3- The approval of special projects regarding copying and the exchanging of artistic and musical scripts.

4- The representation of the Arab countries at the UNESCO Experts Conference.

5- The contemplation of help to the Palestinian students and teachers provided the Conference does not interfere with the political aspects of <sup>the</sup> Palestine question.

6- The concern over appointment of a regional center of the UNESCO in the Middle East.

7- The agreement on a unified exhibition to be organized by the Arab states, exposing all artistic works, old books, and other printed matters.

8- The preparation of a guide by the Syrian Antiquities Department.

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F.GH/JSS/ES



# AMERICAN LEGATION

★ DAMASCUS ★

## Daily Review of the Syrian Press

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The following is an informal digest of material from the local Arabic Press, and is in no way to be considered as an official translation. It should not be quoted nor attributed to the Legation.

RESTRICTED - For Staff Use Only

PRESS DIGEST No.208, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1946

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### NEWSPAPERS REVIEWED:

Alef Ba', An Nasr, Al Fayha, Barada, Al Insha', Al Alam, Al Kifah, An Nazir, Ash-Shabab, Ad-Duha, Al Jebel, Al Ayyam, and Al Qabas.

---oOo---

### P\_A\_L\_E\_S\_T\_I\_N\_E

### LIBERATION FORCES IN DEFENSIVE:

An Nasr: In spite of the fact that the Zionist forces have declared their approval of the cease fire order in the Northern front, and at a time when the SC have been discussing the Zionists' constant breach of truce in the Negev, news reports are received to the effect that the Zionists have concentrated a large force with airplanes, tanks, armored cars, and other weapons and launched an attack on the Liberation forces in their stations lying from Tarbikha to Tarshiha until Er-Rama in the south-west, and from Safsaf through Mirun until Gasher, Al Manara and Al Malkiya in the east. Jewish planes have also raided over peaceful villages and destroyed a great number of them, thus causing new catastrophe and horrors.

In view...

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In view of this pre-meditated aggression, the Command has issued its orders to the Inqaz forces for shortening their lines of defence. Accordingly the army took new defensive precautions. The International Observers have witnessed this Jewish aggression, but they were prevented from entering the area.

TWO AMERICAN MAGAZINES BANNED:

Al Kifah: Two decrees have been prepared banning the two American magazines; LIFE and POST which publish wide-propaganda for the alleged State of Israel, and wrongful information on the Arab states.

REFUGEE DIES OF COLD AND HUNGER!

Al Kifah: Early morning yesterday, a Palestinian refugee was found dead of hunger, sickness, and cold on barada shore. The blood which he had bled was frozen.

It was a terrible sight, particularly because this fate awaits thousands of refugees who would prefer to die from hunger rather than ask for alms. Is there no human feeling among the inhabitants of Damascus that a Palestinian refugee should meet such a fate in their town?...

SYRIAN JEWS SMUGGLE THEIR PROPERTY:

Al Kifah: The Lebanese Security Departments have notified the Syrian Departments of the names of the Syrian Jews who participated in forging Lebanese identity cards.

It is learnt by the Syrian authorities that, following the execution of the Jewish millionaire 'Ads and subsequent trials of Jews in 'Iraq, the Syrian Jews have started to liquidate their immovable properties and smuggle their money to the outside world making use of different commercial tricks with the help of some persons who have no national feeling. The authorities have therefore issued a decision forbidding the registration of a property sale without the Government's prior consent.

OLYMPIAD FILM BANNED:

Al Qabas: Some cinemas had previously scheduled for this week the project of the film on recent Olympiad which took place in London. It is now learnt, however, that the Syrian Government has banned this film because pictures of the

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Arab sports groups to the Olympiad were cancelled by certain pro-Zionist Cinema companies.

WHY NOT DENIED:

An Nasr: Our correspondent has questioned some sources about the news published by the French papers of the Lebanon to the effect that the Arab States have resolved in the Baghdad Conference in 'Amman to attach to Transjordan all lands in Palestine which will be liberated by the TJ Army. The said source, replied that he had no knowledge whatsoever about the subject, and expressed his astonishment that an official denial of this report has not been issued neither in the Lebanon nor in any other Arab capital.

INTERNATIONAL HELP DENIED:

An Nasr: The Press Department has issued the following Communiqué:

"The Beirut Evening daily has published in its issue of 22.10.48 that the UN has only sent to Syria fifty tins of powdered milk together with some tents, while there are in Syria 170 thousand refugees.

"This report is free from truth. The UN has sent to Syria 500 tents, 50 cases of dried milk, 12 tons of Swiss cheese which were all received. In addition various food quantities of which weigh 74 tons, of which 24 tons were contributed by the Near East Corporation, and 7 thousand woolen blankets and 500 more tents, have been shipped from Beirut on their way to Syria.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE ARAB LEAGUE:

Al Kifah: It is to be noted that not all the Arab states delegates attended last Saturday's meeting of the Arab League. During the meeting a cable was received from Baghdad to the effect that the Iraqi Government has decided to delegate Fadel al Jamali, Former Iraqi Foreign Minister in Salih Jabr's cabinet, and Sayyed Abd-al-Jalil al Rawi, Charge d'Affaires in Cairo, who will arrive shortly in Cairo. A

Cable...

(Pr.Dig.208/4)

cable was also received from Shaykh Yusuf Yasin, the Saudi delegate, to the effect that in view of his presence in At-Tur Quarantine, and because of the measures usually taken in the Quarantine his arrival in Cairo will be delayed for few days. Dasuki Abaza, Egyptian acting Foreign Minister also declared in the meeting that Nuqrashy Pasha, regrets his inability to attend the first meeting but promised to attend the second one. The absence of Muhammad Hafez Ramadan Pasha from the first meeting was also noticed. The TJ Minister to Cairo also stated that in view of the opening of the Parliamentary session in Amman on November 2, none of the TJ Cabinet Ministers was able to attend Saturday's meeting of the Arab League.

A GERMAN ECONOMIC EXPERT IN SYRIA:

Al Kifah: Premier Mardam Bey yesterday received Herr Shir, the German expert in Finance and economics who has been called to Syria to benefit from his experience in the financial and economic questions.

AFLAQ'S SENTENCE REDUCED:

Alef Ba': The Court of Cassation yesterday confirmed the first instance verdict condemning Michel 'Aflaq, the Head of the Arab Resurrection Party, to six months imprisonment, but since "the accused had struggled against the Mandate and since his struggle constitutes a cause for reducing his sentence, it has been decided by this court to reduce his sentence to two months as from September 17, the date of his arrest," All the youth present at the trial highly applauded this verdict, and 'Aflaq was taken back to prison to spend the remaining period of his sentence, namely 14 days.

A DENIAL BY DEPUTY MUHAMMAD AL MUBARAK:

In connection with the article published by Al Arab, Paris daily, reproducing an article attributed to the Moslem Brotherhood Deputy for Damascus, Muhammad al Mubarak, expressing his dissatisfaction with the method of rule in Syria, the Damascus Deputy has sent the following statement to all the local papers;

"Paris daily, Al Arab, published by Yunis al Bahri, printed in its issue of October 11, 1948 an article under

my...



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my name without my knowledge.

I have discovered that it is a disfigured translation of some paragraphs of my article published by Al Manar on September 30, 1948 which contained criticism usually carried by all national papers.

Since I did not send any article to the said daily or to any other paper published abroad, and since Al Arab did not contact me or Al Manar for its publication, I issue this clarification.

#### DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN:

An Nasr: The Council of Ministers has issued the following communique:

"The Council of Ministers was convened in the Serail at 5:30 p.m. on October 31, 1948, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Jamil Mardam Bey. The meeting lasted until 8 p.m. in which the Ministers discussed the various problems submitted to the Council. They resolved to draft a law cancelling article 26 of the legislative decree No.79 dated June 30, 1947 concerning the two training years which graduates of the School of Medicine have to undergo before they are permitted to practice medicine, resumed the discussion on the 1949 budget, and decided to allot half a million Syrian Pounds as an aid to the Palestinian refugees. The Council further approved the proposal of the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations with Pakistan."

#### MONOPOLIZERS VERY ACTIVE:

Al Ayyam: Upon surveying the wholesale markets in Damascus, one can realize that monopolizers have been very active in the last two or three weeks. Thus paper has completely disappeared from the market, and its price has consequently risen from 225 piasters to 650 piasters a kilo in a period not exceeding two weeks. The monopoly included also Cardamom-seed whose price rose from 5 pounds to 24 pounds a kilo, American white sugar whose price rose from 120 to 130 piasters a kilo, and fat (Samnah) which rose from 860 to 925 piasters a kilo, thus causing consequent increases in the prices of soap, and oil.

We take this opportunity to call the attention of the authorities to the necessity in putting an end to the ambitions of the monopolizers, who seek richness on account of the poor.

SYRIAN WHEAT TO IRAQ:

Al Fayha: Great quantities of Syrian wheat purchased by the Iraqi Government have arrived in Bagdad in the past two days. It is learnt that the quantity which has already arrived there amounts approximately to 12 thousand tons and that necessary preparations are being made for the conveyance of the remaining 18 thousand tons.

FREE EXPORT OF OLIVE OIL:

Al Qabas: The Minister of National Economy has declared free the export of Olive Oil to the dollar areas after obtaining export licences, providing that the exporter gets only 80% of the dollars and Government gets the remaining 20%.

The paper comments: This decision should have been taken one year ago when olive oil exporters offered 50% of the dollars to the Ministry of Finance, but the Finance Minister refused the offer. We now believe that the Minister of National Economy is looking for the welfare of the nation, but the Finance Minister one year ago was purposely refusing the offer because he wanted olive oil in the country to be very cheap, so that the soap manufacturers will benefit and, it is to be remembered, the Finance Minister is himself one of them.

It is also too late to start now and export olive oil, because Lebanon has already supplied those areas with the olive oil they require, and we shall have only to export the remaining part of their requirements which Lebanon has not so far exported.

STORY OF MINTING SYRIAN DINARS IS IMAGINARY:

Al Alam: Some papers have pointed out that it is intended to mint Syrian dinars. We questioned a financial source about the possibility of carrying out this project. He replied:

Such a plan will cause a great loss to the country, because the price of gold according to our attachment to the International Bank and according to the official market is 15 Syrian pounds. If the Country proceeds on minting of Syrian dinar, it will lose 20 Syrian Pounds for every golden and as such, it can be said that this project is only imaginary.

CONCLUSION ...

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### THE MILITARY SITUATION

In view of the reported Jewish concentrations near the Syrian frontiers and reports on their expected assault on the Syrian front, Premier Haddad Bey has decided to stay in Syria instead of proceeding to Cairo with the Syrian delegation to the Arab League as was officially decided. It is said that the UN observers have hurried to the front to witness Jewish violations of the truce.

Al Kifah: Premier Haddad Bey yesterday stated/ "We are awaiting for the Security Council's decision on Jewish violations, to see if the provisions of the Charter will be applied on the criminals. Although the truce is being infringed by the Jews in all parts of Palestine, the Security Council is doing nothing. Had the Arabs been the violators, the Security Council and the General Assembly would have been convened for after midnight meetings." Speaking about the general condition in the Northern fronts, Haddad Bey stated: "Fighting is still continuing between the Inqaz forces and the Lebanese Army, on one side, and the attacking Jewish forces on the other. The Jewish attack ~~was~~ was very strong which led the Arab forces to shorten their lines of defence."

An Nasr: We have received the following item from the Army Information Services:

"NEWS RECEIVED FROM THE INQAZ FORCES HEADQUARTERS INDICATE THAT THE INQAZ FORCES CONTROL ALL THE SECTORS OF THE FRONT, AND THAT THE NEWS ARE SATISFACTORY."

Al Kifah: It is learnt from an official source that the Arab armies have evacuated the village of Tarshiha and have taken positions in the village of Tarbilha. However, the Jews have not entered Tarshiha.

On the other hand, an official source stated that tomorrow, Tuesday, is the day looked upon impatiently by the Arabs, for it is tomorrow that the American elections are being held and that the Security Council will meet to declare its formal attitude toward Jewish violations of truce in Negev.

### POSTPONMENT OF SECURITY COUNCIL'S DECISION ON PALESTINE:

Despite the denial made by Press Secretary Ross to the current reports that President Truman had sent last minute instructions to the American delegation to postpone the SC decision, all the Syrian press bitterly attacked in one way or another the President. Following are headlines on the postponement:

Al Ayyam: The Most Horrible Crime Committed by Truman.

Al Jahal: SC lost its prestige by abiding to Truman's Order.

Al Kifah: Truman Personally Interfered and Stopped SC from Taking Decision.

Alif Ba: PRESIDENT Truman's maneuver succeeded.

Al Fayha: Truman instructed Marshall to Vote Against SC Decision.

Barada: The Most Scandalous Act of President Truman.

An Nazz: Once Again Washington conspired Against Arabs. What Are We Waiting For?

Editor Bahil writes in Al-Ayyam:

President Truman's attitude should not be surprising, for we should not expect from the man who has been for the last two years begging the Jewish votes to discard them few days before the Presidential elections.

However, God help the Arab delegations. How could they tolerate such a poisonous atmosphere? How could they stay in an assembly full of duplicity, trickery, fraud, and betrayal? The whole world has knowledge of the motives for postponement. Truman has succeeded, and we wonder if Stalin will succeed too, for the American President's conspiracy is less than that of the Soviet's Dictator. The support of the Soviet Delegation to the Jewish representative's demand for opening private negotiations with the Egyptian Government for settling Negev conflict is a dirty trick which if accepted would be 1) a recognition of the Israel Government, 2) undermining the Arab League, and 3) a surrender to the Jewish maneuver aiming settling independently the dispute with each of the Arab countries.

In turn, Al Baled remarks: "Since Truman, the daring knight of Zionism, has revealed the detailed plan of his criminal and barbaric Zionist policy for the present and for the future, and since the Security Council has proved to be a cheap tool in the hands of Zionism, let us pay no attention to Truman and his colleagues or to the Security Council and its orders, and let us resort to arms with which we'll only achieve success."

#### COME ON AND FIGHT IT

All papers reiterated today their usual appeal to the Arab leaders to resume the fight. Continuing former lines of arguments, Al Qabas editorially points that "We'll continue to be losers militarily and diplomatically if we do not shift from defence to attack."

Al Alam cries: "Enough meetings. Enough misleading. Enough hesitation. Put an end to them and hurry to arms."

#### AMERICAN POLL DAY AND THE ANNIVERSARY OF BALFOUR DECLARATION

An Nazz: Editor Sidawi writes:

Tomorrow the American people will go to the polls and manifest their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the man whose responsibility for the present disturbed condition overwhelming the world nowadays will be decided by history. This man will no doubt be greatly responsible

for the tragedies and catastrophes that befall the Arabs as a result of the American deceitful, deluded, and partial policy.

We do not mean that the American policy towards Palestine will change if Dewey comes to power. We still believe that the substance of American policy will not alter with the change of persons in the Presidency, because the American policy is planned, and the President has to execute it at his own discretion.

Since America has abandoned its isolation policy, and has started to interfere in international affairs, it became very ambitious in the East. It has planned its ambitions, which include petroleum, and sought in various ways to execute them. Among the American plans is the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine which will be the American "walking stick" in the East. The American Republican Party whose candidate is Dewey is well known to be a party of capitalists, and therefore it will still be more keen upon executing American ambitions, and therefore the Arabs' wishful thinking for a change in American policy under Dewey is false. It will not be strange that those who wish now success to Dewey will in future long for the return of Truman.

All that interests us in the American elections is that they will terminate and terminate with them illusions of some of our leaders. Tomorrow, this disillusion will be brought to an end.

It is amazing that American election day coincides with the anniversary of that promise given by the British Minister Balfour. Is this a real coincidence, or is there an Anglo-American agreement for attributing the Holiest Arab place to the Jews?

#### 'HUMANITY' in the American Propaganda:

Al Balad: The American propaganda offices in Syria and Lebanon are still propagating the 'humanity' of America... through contributions of Red Cross or other for the help of the Palestinian refugees. We hereunder publish to our readers some consecutive bulletins which we have received from these offices. We wish that America and its President, 'Adon' Truman, the Knight of Zionism, stop helping the Zionist gangsters and supplying them with arms and ammunition without which no Arab would have been displaced from his country and which would have spared the misery which the Palestinians are now undergoing. May Truman and his collaborators remain confident that the Arab and Moslem world shall never forget that Truman's term of office were years of mourning in the Arab world, and that it was Truman's policy which doomed half-a-million Moslem and Christian Arabs to destruction. This American "human" propaganda is like a person who mentions the name of God and slaughters!

After publishing some of the news items on American help to the refugees, Al Balad adds:

Yes! This is American propaganda! And what a false Propaganda! Whether Truman or his competitor Dewey wins, both are competing in satisfying the criminal Zionists. This increases the feeling of

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hatred in the Arab world to the United States and its President as long as it is following a Zionist policy aiming at disgracing the Holy Land and destroying the Moslem as well as the Christian holies there.

We sincerely wish that the American people be confident that the Arabs do not look forward to American help and sympathy, after the crimes committed by the American rulers which created the greatest political tragedy in the history of humanity. All we hope for is the liberty and independence of Palestine first and foremost. Will the American people therefore support the Arabs in their noble and high requests?

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ... CONTD...

EXPLOSION IN AL NIZAM PRESS:

An Nasri A terrible explosion was heard at 10:30 yesterday evening at Al Marjeh. The people and the police have rushed to the place to discover the source of the explosion... Five minutes later they understood that the explosion took place at Al Nizam printing press, which is situated at Al Bahsa.

It was learnt further that two persons had placed some dynamite on the left side of the press, the side which exploded and removed half the iron gate which is 12 meters distant from the front of the building, and destroyed the glass and wood.

Immediately the Director of Police and owner of the newspaper came to the place of the explosion, and sent for the investigator who had not come yet by 11:30 p.m.

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MOVIES THIS WEEK

AIDA: WANTED FOR MURDER  
(20th)

Starring Eric Portland and Vuley Gray.

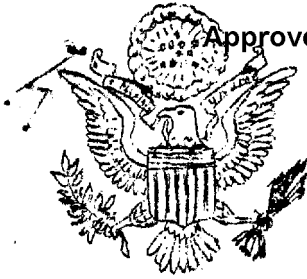
DUNIA: THE EXILE

Starring Douglas Fairbanks and Linda Darnelle.

AL AHRAM SUMMER STORM  
Next to L'oisie

Starring George Sanders and Linda Darnelle

FARDOSSE (German Film Talking Arabic)



# AMERICAN LEGATION

★ DAMASCUS ★

## Daily Review of the Syrian Press

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RESTRICTED - (For Staff Use Only)

PRESS DIGEST No.210, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1948

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### NEWSPAPERS REVIEWED:

Alef Ba', Al Fayha', Barada, An Nasr, Al Kifah,  
Al Insha', Al Balad, Al Qabas, Al Ayyam, Al Alam,  
An Nazir, Ash-Shabab, Al Jabal, and Ad-Duha.

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### MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

#### SYRO-ITALIAN DIFFERENCE!

Alef Ba': The Italian Minister to Syria has asked an exorbitant rent for the Italian Hospital occupied by the Ministry of Hygiene. The Ministry insists that the 50,000 Pounds spent for the maintenance of the Hospital be deducted from the total rent claimed by the Italian. A compromise solution is shortly expected.

#### KASHMIR'S FOREIGN MINISTER IN DAMASCUS:

Alef Ba': Qadi Thuyar-al-Din, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of free Kashmir, has arrived in Damascus after his visit to Mecca. He will leave for Beirut and Cairo

to meet...

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to meet Liyaqat Ali Khan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, who is the guest of the Arab League Council.

ECONOMIC TALKS (See Pr.Dig.209/4)

Al Kifah: The Conference convened by the Minister of National Economy, Mikha'il Ilian came to an end. The conferees reached to a decision that the proposals of Lebanon, particularly with regards to its import policy, cannot be considered as basis for negotiations for the future economic relations of the two countries because it, Lebanon, completely neglected the Syrian interests.

The conferees also recommended the Government to reach a stability in its currency.

EXPLOSION IN NIZAM PRINTING SHOP (See Pr.Dig.206/10)

Al Kifah: The editor/owner of Al Nizam paper has informed Al Kifah that he suspected the Moslem Brotherhood Organization of the explosion of his printing shop and that he has filed a case against the Deputy for Damascus Muhammad Mubarak, member of the Organization.

A POLICEMAN ROBS:

Al Kifah: A policeman has been accused of robbing the passers by in Bab Sharki every evening of their money by pointing his pistol at them. He has been arrested pending inquiry and reference to Court.

POSSIBLE REELECTION OF TRUMAN:

Al Kifah: At 2:30 a.m. to-day a serious shift has been noticed in the counting of votes for the Presidency of the U.S. Truman has been reported to be leading in many States. Joe Louis' declaration at the last minute of his support of Truman, and the votes in favor of Truman of the northern industrial districts add to the possibility of Truman's re-election.

The official results of the elections will be announced as from 4:30 p.m. to-day (local time)

PALESTINE....



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## P A L E S T I N E

### AN APPEAL TO THE CITIZENS:

All papers: We have received the following important statement from the Army Information Service:

"Oh Noble Citizens!

"All of us are aware that we are engaged in a war, and we all know what an enemy we are fighting;

"We are fighting the compound of evil and disorder mustered from all parts of the world. You are fighting people who believe in disorder, confusion, misleading and falsification. These are their preferable weapons with which they destroyed the entity of Germany twice, and with which they exploited America's wealth and press for their own interest and not for the interest of the Americans. With these weapons they also dominated white Russia and Red Russia in the two eras.

"The Almighty has laid on the Arabs the charge of mopping the earth from this cancer whose mischief's humanity is tolerating to-day as it did in the old times.

"It is a burden which could only be discharged by determinant persons. Our first responsibility is, therefore, to check the enemy's preferable weapons; intrigues, plots, and falsifications.

"Your army, on your behalf, surrounds, together with the other Arab armies, this Cancer in a tight circle. Your enemy suffers from unproductivity, starvation, and bombardment which makes him hit madly with his head, feet, hands, on some chain of this circle, aiming at alleviating the Zionists restlessness resulting from the long siege, so as to claim to the world that it is still capable of assault and breaking the siege.

"Therefore, citizens, disregard the agents and defeatists, who spread such falsifications and lies.

"The Army which is stationing, on your behalf, in fortifications and trenches, expects you to guard its rear and to strike without pity any individual trying to spread among you Israel's propaganda and lies.

"Yours sincerely,

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"Your sons and the elite of your youths are engaged in a war re-inforced by America, Russia, and Britain. It is not, therefore, disgracing to see in this war not other than tears, sweating, and blood as Britain's (Miles) had said when Britain was at its critical moment. It is disgraceful to see among us persons or/spreading mischievous propaganda. defeatists

"It is disgraceful to see among us individuals who when hearing the propaganda of agents get frightened instead of breaking the head of this lying agent. This is a war in which advance and retreat, victory and Sacrifice, endurance, and faith should be our motto.

"Your army is discharging its duty and is devoting every moment to fight on your behalf. You are its substance and support. Do not forget at any moment, day or night, that you are engaged in a war of life or death. Your army is fighting openly the enemy in the battlefields, and you are expected to fight the enemy disguised among you.

"Endurance leads to Success."

#### BEVIN-MARSHALL TALKS REFLECTED IN DAMASCUS:

Alef Ba': Prime Minister Jamil Mardam Bey received at his home the British Minister Delegate to Syria. It is believed that the Palestine question in the light of the recent Bevin-Marshall talks in London was discussed in this meeting.

Al Fayha' reports that despite the official Holiday the Prime Minister received some members of the diplomatic corps including the British Minister to Syria.

#### NEW SOLUTION FOR PALESTINE QUESTION:

Al Fayha': From reliable sources comes the news that the Prime Minister has received two reports from the Syrian Delegates to the Arab League Council containing a new plan for the solution of the Palestinian question. It is reported that the reports are under the consideration of the Prime Minister together with his ministers.

Barada believes that this new project has ensured the non-resumption of fighting at the present time and stipulated a solution through diplomatic means.

ARAB...

(Pr.Dig.210/5)

ARAB DELEGATIONS IN PARIS WONDER:

Al Kifah: The Arab delegations in Paris have requested Riyad al-Solh to enquire from Azzam Pasha, Secretary-General of the Arab League, why the Arab States have not yet resorted to joint military operations in Palestine in return for continual Jewish aggression, as was decided at the 'Amman Conference.

"WE ARE FIGHTING THREE POWERS IN PALESTINE" :

Al Insha': Reiterating that the Arab States are fighting in Palestine against three great powers with their arms and equipment, Editor Wajih Al-Haffar writes in part :

The Jews in Palestine possess today 'in their wicked State' Flying Fortresses, heavy modern tanks and armored cars of American and Czech types because America and Russia shipped them in their ships and planes. Their senior officers also lead the military activities in the battlefields in Palestine.

This is the truth which we wanted our leaders and chiefs to understand. It is evident that the Arab States were not capable of shaping their foreign policy in a form creating a sort of widescale international coordination. This is not an accusation but simply facts which have been uttered by our outstanding statesmen now and then. They admit that Syria in the first place mislead its foreign policy and has not created relations bringing it out of its present isolation which it has created to itself.

FIGHTING IN NORTH OF PALESTINE:

Al Balad: The following details of the fighting in the North of Palestine were broadcast by the Damascus Radio Station:

Following the battles of Al Manara and the constant attempts to recapture the areas they had lost, the Jews, availing themselves of the Truce in Palestine, gathered themselves and launched an attack with planes, tanks, armored cars, and artillery on the positions of the Inqaz Army in (al Jash) and (Tarshiha). The attack then spread

along...

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along the whole of the Front with the purpose of splitting up the Inqaz Army with the occupation of Tarshiba and Sa'Sa.

The Arab forces repelled the strong enemy attack on Tarshiha and Al Jash. Owing to the superiority of the enemy in airplanes, orders were issued to our forces to withdraw to the defense line which the Command had built. Thus, the enemy's attempts to encircle and annihilate our forces failed.

In the district of Al Jash the enemy lost 300 killed, and in Tarshiha more than 500. Our forces captured many materials, as well as blood-stained Zionist flag. Insignia of 'Storm Forces' was found on the Jewish casualty. This insignia is in the possession of the Arab Command. Our casualties reached 55 martyrs, and 40 wounded.

# RILEY PROTESTS AGAINST SYRIA:

Al Kifah: Haifa 2- General Riley, Chief of the UN Observers for Palestine protested against Syria for having prevented the Observers to carry out observation duties along the Syrian Front, said the spokesman of the UN Observers Commission in Haifa.

The spokesman added that the General ignores if the action on the part of Syria meant the Arabs readiness to carry out military activities.

General Siley is quoted as saying in Beirut that the problem of the refugees has become more serious following the recent fighting along the Lebanese frontier.

WORLD NEWS IN HEADLINES:

Alief Ba': EFFECT OF COMMUNIST VICTORIES IN CHINA, Britain  
and American Worries of the Tense Situation

JAWAHER LAL NEHRU ARRIVED IN CAIRO TODAY

F. GH/JSS/99



# AMERICAN LEGATION

★ DAMASCUS ★

## Daily Review of the Syrian Press

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The following is an informal digest of material from the local Arabic Press, and is in no way to be considered as an official translation. It should not be quoted nor attributed to the Legation.

RESTRICTED - (For Staff Use Only)

PRESS DIGEST No.211, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1943

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### NEWSPAPERS REVIEWED:

Alef Ba', An Nasr, Barada, Al Ayyam, Al Qabas,  
Al Fayha', Al Alam, Al Kifah, Al Insha', Al Balad,  
Ash-Shabab, An Nazir, Ad-Duha, and Al Jabal

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### PRESS REACTION ON ELECTION OF TRUMAN

The success of President Truman was front-paged in all the local press. So far, comment came from An Nasr and Al Kifah.

Editor Sidawi writes in An Nasr:

The effect of President Truman's success on the Arabs in general, and on the Palestine problem in particular, is the continuation of an unchanged hostile policy towards the Arabs and friendly towards the Zionists. It is to be noted that we were not expecting any change even if Dewey had won and Truman failed. Now that Truman is going to remain in the Office for another four years, and believing that he is indebted to the Jews for his success which would increase his enthusiasm to extend material and moral help to them, it is our turn to breath more freely because the

remains....

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remains no more "justification" for the Arab leaders to postpone the settlement of the Palestine problem. The disillusion of a possible change in the American policy has at last evaporated and the Arab peoples are now entitled to expect their leaders to abide by their peoples' demands for a serious action. Will the Arab leaders do something to regain the confidence of their peoples and the trust in the wisdom of their leadership?

Co-editor Ahmad Nassih writes in Al Kifah:

Neither the success of Truman nor of Dewey would have brought any change in the foreign policy of the US. Had the elections brought Dewey to power, Marshall's plan for the recovery of Europe would have been maintained, Dewey would have continued the program of aiding the Chinese against the Communists, and the atom policy would have continued.

If so, why was the man in the street in Damascus disappointed and grieved at Dewey's failure and Truman's success? And why was he expecting a miracle to take place at the last minute which would doom Truman to failure? The answer could be given as follows:

The Arab world emerged from the Second World War building hopes on the Atlantic and the UN Charters and believing that only the US, which suffered the disaster of two World wars, and which freed itself from colonization and emancipated the negroes from the Whites, could lead the small countries in observing and respecting the spirit of these Charters.

However, the Arab World had tested the United States in America twice in the person of President Truman and his Government, and in both cases they lost all hopes in the US, because firstly it backed Britain when Egypt submitted its case to the SC, and secondly it became the Champion of Zionism when the Palestine question was considered by the General Assembly. Therefore, it was only natural that the Arab reaction against the US as represented in the person of its President Truman be proportional to the great hopes they had in the US and the American people. However, some Arabs were expecting that, should Truman go away, the policy favoring Israel would go too and once again an American policy influenced by Washington's, Lincoln's, and Wilson's teachings would be established.

It is true...

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It is true that the Arab World had not even a promise from Mr. Dewey, but the Arabs belief in the noble humanitarian doctrines preached by the American leaders at the end of the last century and the beginning of this, led them to place once again their hopes in the US expecting that Dewey would fairly represent the true face of America and that the Jewish votes would not have that magic influence on Mr. Dewey after the elections.

Now that the elections are over and President Truman remains in office, we wish to convey to him, and to the American people, the belief of every Arab that if the US continues to follow Mr. Truman's old policy of turning the UN to an institution, whose members receive and execute orders under the influence of their need to American dollars, this institution will be wrecked and the responsibility for it will fall on the American people.

On the other hand, the Arab man in the street believes that if it is true that Truman's Palestine policy originated from the will of the American people as represented by the American press, it is time for Mr. Truman to realize that the American press does not represent at all the American people's will, for 90% of the press were against him in the elections. The results proved that the American people's will is far from being illustrated by the American press which represents the interests of big Companies and Trusts.

## P A L E S T I N E

### RETREAT OF THE INQAZ ARMY:

Al Balad: An Arab League spokesman said in Cairo today that the Inqaz Army (Liberation Army) exhausted good and courageous efforts in the battlefields, and that the Command was in communication with the League on all matters. The Inqaz Army Command as well as Qasbi, personally, have cabled the following warning to the League:

"Since the outbreak of the hostilities in Palestine the Inqaz Army carried out activities with deficiency in arms and equipment that no other Army could perform. Despite this fact the Army, carried out its task with courage and honor. I had drawn your attention to the enemy's mobilization with heavy and modern arms and tanks and that an unequipped army would not be able to resist them. The Inqaz Army despitely refused with little arms. I had submitted my resignation but was refused. I, therefore, find myself compelled to choose between two alternatives: either to leave the Arab world or to continue to maintain...

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to maintain the Army and lose the lands until such a time when the fighting takes its active form."

The Arab League spokesman added that the retreat of the Army was not a surprise and unexpected. "It is not a defeat in the military sense of the word, but an emergency maneuver," he concluded.

#### SYRIAN PROTEST DENIED - COMMUNIQUE:

Al Balad: The following Communique was issued by the Press and Propaganda Department:

"In its issue no. 2278 dated November 2, 1948 Al Kifan (See Pr. 210/6) reported news originating from Haifa to the effect that General Milley protested against the Syrian Government for its decision which it had enforced preventing the UN Observers to carry out their observation duties along the Syrian front on the Northern Border of Palestine.

"This news is unfounded and a mere fabrication. The Press and Propaganda Department is authorized to blankly deny the news in view of the fact that the UN Observers Commission in Syria has expressed its satisfaction with the good treatment which it has received from the Syrian Government on various occasions."

#### ARAB LEAGUE PROTESTS:

Al Balad: Cairo 3- The Arab League has launched a protest to the UN General Assembly against the atrocities committed by the Jews in the Northern front of Palestine.

#### JEWISH ATROCITIES AS DESCRIBED BY REFUGEE:

Al Qabas: More refugees, victims of the recent battles on the northern front of Palestine, have arrived in Damascus.

A Young refugees of about 20 years of age, described how the Jews shelled and destroyed the peaceful Arab villages and how they were repelled with heavy losses by the courageous Inqaz forces.

He further added that when the Liberation Army forces retreated according to plans, the Jews attacked the villages

and put...



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and put them into flame. The inhabitants trying to escape the fire, were machine-gunned and killed. Only those who were destined to safety escaped death.

ANY PROSPECTS FOR NEW AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD PALESTINE:

Al Kifah: Under the above heading Al Kifah writes:

The 'New York Herald Tribune' has to-day published an editorial on the Palestine question saying that it is essential that America's Palestine policy should no more be affected by domestic considerations. It is the duty of the American Government, therefore, to exhaust all efforts in the Security Council for finding a solution to the Palestinian question. The paper then adds that there is very little chance for a solution emerging from Jewish-Arab talks, and therefore a solution must be found by the United Nations.

ARAB LEAGUE MEETING

Al Kifah: The Arab League Council was convened yesterday. The Egyptian Prime Minister and the Secretary-General of the League were absent.

During the meeting, the Syrian and Lebanese delegates stressed for an immediate consideration of the Palestine question from all points of view, while the Egyptian Foreign Minister demanded the postponement of the discussions pending the presence of the Egyptian Premier and the recovery of 'Azzam Pasha.

After the meeting, the Yaman delegate and President of the Council, stated that the political and military situation in Palestine were subject of special consideration by the Council, and added that the Council had prepared a protest to the Security Council against the beastly actions of the Jews in the northern front of Palestine.

Our correspondent learns that, if the Arab League meetings will continue to be fruitless, it will be very probable that the Prime Minister will leave for Cairo to convey a special memorandum from President Quwwatli to King Faruq.

(Pr. Sig. 211/6)

ELECTIONS OF LITTLE IMPORTANCE TO US

Al Kifah: Asked about his expectations of possible effect of American elections on the Palestine question, Prime Minister Jamil Mardam Bey said, "We do not attach any great importance to it."

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

ANTOUN SAADEH IN DAMASCUS:

Al Alam: Antoun Saadeh, the Chief of the Syrian Popular Party, has arrived in Damascus yesterday afternoon. He was received by a great number of party members in Doummar and accompanied to Damascus. He will visit the Presidency to register his name. The Chief is expected to discuss with the responsible quarters various matters relative to both Syria and Lebanon in the fields of politics and economy.

Our reporter has learned that Mr. Saadeh will place all the potentialities of the Party for the sake of the unity and cooperation of interests of the two countries.

KHURI EXCUSES HIMSELF OF THE DUTIES:

An Nasr: Faris al Khuri has cabled to the Syrian Government requesting his exemption of the duties entrusted to him at the United Nations. Political circles connect the resignation with the possibility of the Arabs' acceptance of Bernadotte's Plan.

NATIONALISM AND DEVOTION OF THE KURDS:

An Nasr: A Delegation of Kurdish leaders including Buzan Shahin, Deputy for Ain al Arab; Hasan Agha, Deputy for Jazirah; and Shahin Shahin, President of the Municipality of Ain al-Arab, called on the Minister of Interior, Sabri al-Asali, to refute the news rumored to the effect that the Kurds were propagating for a Kurdish National State. The Minister assured to them that the Government is confident of their nationalism and devotion to the Government. The delegation came out very thankful and gratified by the Minister's assurances.

MUHAFIZ OF ALEPPO RESIGNS:

Al Kifah: It is learnt that the Ministry of Interior will effect some transfers among the Muhafizeen and Qaim-Maqameen.

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It is further learnt that the Minister of Interior has accepted the resignation of 'Adil al-'Azmah, the Muhafiz of Aleppo; but no official declaration was made confirming or denying this report.

PRESS SUSPENSIONS:

Al Balad: A Presidential Decree has been issued regretfully suspending 'Al Hawadeth' daily of Aleppo and 'Al Dunia' Damascus weekly magazine each for one month for publishing news inconsistent with respect due to responsible official personalities.

LOYALTY OF THE TCHEKKEZ:

Al Ayyam: Tchekkez leaders have called on a general meeting of the Community with the purpose of discussing and refuting the false news broadcast by the Haganah Station to the effect that some Druzes and Tchekkez are fighting in the lines of the Haganah forces.

RAILWAYS ANNIVERSARY IN SPAIN:

Al Alam: The Spanish Government has decided to hold great ceremonies to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the building of railways in Spain. The Arab League has advised the Arab States to participate in the celebrations in Madrid and Barcelona in order to cement the friendly relations with Spain.

DISORDER AMONG TRIBES:

Barada: From our Aleppo Correspondent:

Dispute between Al-Fashat and Al-Fad'an tribes have resulted with armed clashes between the two parties at 'Ain al-Arab district, which led to the dispatch of Army forces to appease the situation and to form a Commission to reconcile the two parties.

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